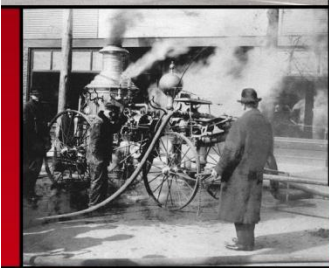


# LAFAYETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2011



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# Mission Statement



**To respond to the needs of the citizens of Lafayette in a timely manner through continuing public education, multi-agency and community cooperation, quick response, and a desire to make Lafayette a safer place to live**

# **2011 Personnel Roster**

## **Chief**

Jim Morrow

## **Assistant Chief of Training**

Richard Doyle

## **Assistant Chief of Special Operations**

Mike Blann

## **Assistant Chiefs of Suppression**

Tim Ford – A Shift

Mike Heatt – B Shift

Rick Dehahn – C Shift

## **Chief of Fire Prevention**

Ron Ritchey

## **Inspectors**

Patrick Grimes

David Thomas

Derrick Davis

Gary Bennett

## **Executive Assistant**

Beth Duell

## **Administrative Assistant**

Samantha Taylor

## Captains

Steve Anderson  
Steve Butram  
Randy Evans  
Larry Hitze  
Michael Schwarz  
Dave Thelen  
Mike Tribbett

## Lieutenants

John Berkshire  
David Bisher  
Rodney Brewer  
Matt Chase  
Joe Danaher  
Dane Elston  
Todd Ford  
Tim Franscoviak  
Toby Frost  
Bill Griffis  
Mark Halsema  
Chad Hoey  
Tom Holladay  
Joe Long  
Rick Meyer  
Marc Motuliak  
Ted Murphy  
Brian Perior  
Elmo Robledo  
Craig Stanton  
Joe Steckler  
Karl Stokes  
Todd Wagner  
Rich Wilkins

## Sergeants

Brian Alkire  
Steve Arndt  
Steve Black  
Jim Brewer  
Denny Burkhardt  
John Butler  
Jack Cross  
Jim Dickensheets  
Philip Difabio  
Heather Evans  
Denny Gick  
Pat Griswold  
John Gullion  
Randy Keen  
Mike Koning, Sr.  
Mark Lee

Kevin Marsh  
Lance Martin  
Jon McDaniel  
Tagg Morris  
Greg Phillips  
Mark Phillips  
John Robinson  
Bruce Stafford  
David Stanley  
Tim Stillabower  
Don Thelen  
Brian Toby  
Darrell Vandergraff  
Alan Wade  
Chad Wiesler  
Ryan Woody

## Journeyman

Brian Adkins  
Scott Alkire  
Dave Allspaw  
Ryan Altman  
Mark Antonian  
Joe Barker  
Jamie Blacker  
Mark Beeler  
Tim Butz  
Darren Chase  
Jason Clark  
Myron Congram  
Chris Conklin  
Steve Cornelius  
Brad Cornell  
Mike Davis  
Adam Deaton  
Damon Downey  
Doug Dunwoody  
Gary Gaither

Chris Gorbett  
Darryl Graham  
Scott Guinn  
John Hamilton  
Chris Hathaway  
Jeff Hauser  
Bill Holderfield  
Patrick Holladay  
Mike Hoskins  
Jeremy Hostetler  
Scott Hunter  
Jason Jordan  
Ted Koeppen  
Matt Kubat  
Todd Lyons  
Ron Martin, Jr.  
Bob McCord  
Chad McCord  
Marc McKinney  
Eliseo Medrano

Travis Meyer  
Mike Moran  
Bob Morehouse  
Leonard Muinzer  
Todd Munson  
Doug Newhart  
Travis Oliver  
Bill Patterson  
Lester Pelfree  
Juan Perera  
Jeff Ramey  
Trent Richter  
Shawn Rice  
Jeff Smith  
Mike Stull  
Jason Swank  
Paul Terhune  
Troy Trent  
Brad Young

## Firefighter Is

Justin Brown  
Sarah Hagerty  
Mike Koning, Jr.  
Clinton Korty  
Jayson Lohmeyer  
Ryan Sanders  
Kevin Woollen

## Fire Stations

**Station 1**



**Station 6**



**Station 2**



**Station 7**



**Station 3**



**Station 8**



**Station 5**



**Station 9**



**Training Center**





HINEA PHOTO

NO. 5 FIRE STATION 1930  
Lester Hague, John Bergsma, Ted Bloom-Lieutenant, Bill Neal,  
George Buck-Captain and Frank Robinson.



## **Lafayette Fire Prevention**

### **Overview**

The Fire Prevention Bureau is staffed by a Division Chief and 4 full-time Inspectors whose primary responsibilities include:

- Public Education through Media (print, radio, and TV)
  - Schools (Annual Fire Prevention Show)
  - “Fire House” Band
  - Juvenile Fire Setter Education Program
  - Media (print, radio, and TV)
  - Free Smoke Detector “Early Alert Program”
  - Community “Outreach” Events, such as:
    - ✓ Lafayette School GLASS Program at Ross Hills
    - ✓ Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair
    - ✓ Various Others
- Building and Fire Code Enforcement for Existing Commercial Buildings
- Plan Review and Inspections of New Construction Projects
- Liaison to Engineering Dept (meet with building owners/architects/contractors)
  1. Review Building, Sprinkler, Fire Alarm, Kitchen Hood Plans
  2. Conduct Building Inspections from beginning to end of project
  3. Conduct Pre-Design and Pre-Build Meetings with Architects and Contractors
  4. Conduct Hydrant Flow Tests
- Fire and Explosion Investigations
  - Work in close proximity with federal, state and local law enforcement and the prosecutor’s office in arson investigations
  - Work closely with private insurance investigators on all cases
  - Work in partnership with LPD Detectives and the Prosecutor’s Office in Arson Cases
- Special Investigations
  - Administrative Investigations as assigned

- Additional Administrative Duties include, but not limited to:
  - Grant Funding
  - Updating Local Ordinances
  - Updating SOP's
  - Continued Education and Training for Staff
  - Recruit and firefighter training ( as assigned by Training Division)
  - Assist Company Officers with Preplans in Complex Structures
  - ISO Rating for department

## **2011 YEAR IN REVIEW**

There were significant changes for the year 2011 which included completely updating our website and providing specific information for homeowners, the general public, business owners, contractors, designers, and fire investigations.

Significant time was spent on creating original worksheets and forms (“*punch lists*”) for every aspect of building construction including: plan review, site plan review, fire systems review (sprinklers, fire alarms, and hood systems), framing and above ceiling inspections, and final inspections. The benefits of these improvements include: providing valuable information to our customers to assist them in understanding our inspection process, providing useful information to reduce costly errors in the field, and reducing the amount of time our inspectors spend answering questions on the phone.

Additionally, we created an inspection “affidavit compliance” form for our existing fire and life safety inspections program that has significantly decreased the amount of time inspectors have traditionally spent in costly “re-inspections” where violations have been found. We received 212 (7% of all existing inspection) compliance affidavits this year, and anticipate this number increasing next year.

The Fire Prevention Bureau increased productivity (“doing more with less”) during the course of the year. Highlights of these include:

- **The total number of New Construction Plan Reviews was essentially the same as the previous year. It certifies that the City of Lafayette has remained strong during these financially challenging times and weathered the storm far better than most communities across the country.**
- **The total number of “Existing” Inspections for 2011 increased (12%) from previous year.**
- **The total number of ALL (“Existing” and “New Construction”) Inspections increased (59%) from previous year.**
- **The total number of New Construction “System” (Sprinklers/Fire Alarms/ Kitchen Hood) Inspections increased (37%) from previous year.**
- **The total of number of Pre-Construction/Pre- Design Meetings with Building Designers and Contractors increased (16%) from previous year. This facilitates communications which allows us to assist Designers/Contractors in identifying code deficiencies prior to construction, resulting in eliminating costs in the construction phase.**

- The total number of All New Construction Inspections (*“Structural” and “Systems”*) increased (9%) from previous year.

## **Public Education**

### **“Annual” FIRE PREVENTION SHOW**

Our “annual” Fire Prevention Show was well attended again this year for children in grades Kindergarten through 2nd in the Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe School corporations, as well as private schools in the Greater Lafayette Community. For the past 10 years, our major corporate sponsor for the show was State Farm Insurance.

#### **History of the Fire Prevention Show**

The Lafayette Fire Department has targeted elementary school aged children as our main target audience over the past 20 plus years.

In the mid 1980’s, members of the Fire Prevention Bureau would visit each elementary school during Fire Prevention Week and educate each school individually. In an attempt to be more efficient and effective, fire prevention education was moved to the Tippecanoe Mall and students in the Lafayette School Corporation in grades K-3 were transported by bus to the mall and educated collectively. In the early 1990’s, the show was transferred to the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds where students were educated by the use of hand puppets and recorded songs. In the mid 1990’s the show had a brief hiatus at the Long Center, located in downtown Lafayette. Since 1996, the show has been held at Lafayette Jeff High School Auditorium for students in grades K-2 from Lafayette School Corporation, West Lafayette Schools, Tippecanoe County School Corporation and private Christian schools. The format of the show changed dramatically in 1996 when we abandoned the puppet show and substituted live characters that are portrayed by local firefighters. The “Firehouse Band” was formed and performs live music during the performances. We educate approximately 5,000 children each year during Fire Prevention Week.





**Retired LFD Firefighter Jerry Gordon, who has played the character “Roy” in the show for the past 15 years, received a “Meritorious Service Award” from Indiana State Fire Marshall Jim Greeson and LFD Chief Jim Morrow. Jerry’s last show was this year.**



**Current LFD Firefighter Denny Burkhardt “Sparky” has participated in the show for the past 11 years and 2010 was his last year participating in the show. He received the “Meritorious Service Award” from Indiana State Fire Marshall Jim Greeson. Denny’s daughter Lauren and wife Teresa are present.**



The "Firehouse Band" members, cast Members, and stage crew.



Members of the "Cast" front row and kneeling: LFD firefighters Brian Perior, Jerry Gordon, Inspector Pat Grimes. Standing in the back row: LFD FF Travis Oliver, FF Justin Brown, LPD Officer Mike McIver, FF John Hamilton, and Inspector Dave Thomas.



The “Crash Test Dummies” along with Capt. Corn (Brian Perior) and LPD Officer Mike McIver

## **TIPPECANOE COUNTY 4-H FAIR**

The Lafayette Fire Department participated once again in public education at the Tippecanoe County 4-H Fair in July. The Fire Prevention Bureau sets up a booth in the exhibitor’s tent and hands out over 2000 free fire helmets, stick-on badges and coloring books. While handing out each of the fire helmets, children that show up at the booth must answer a fire safety question to receive his or her prize. Free smoke detectors are also handed out to people who qualify and are in need of one.

## **JUVENILE FIRE SETTER PROGRAM**

The LFD Juvenile Fire Setter Program is a program of education and evaluation. It is designed to teach children and parents that matches and lighters are tools, not toys. A child who demonstrates interest or curiosity about fire should be provided with information and education as soon as possible. Our staff is able to conduct an evaluation interview with both the parent(s) and child to help determine why the child is interested in fire. The program is also able to determine if the curiosity can be controlled by the parent or if additional counseling is needed through professionals. In an effort to better serve our community, our staff networks with other juvenile fire setter programs throughout the state to identify new and better ways to educate and inform these children.

## **FREE SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM**

Working in conjunction with our Firefighter's Union, the Fairfield Township Trustee's office, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Kathryn Weil Center, Von Tobel's and the Historical Five Points Fire Museum, we offer free smoke detectors to members of our community. For people who qualify, a free smoke detector can be obtained by stopping by one of our fire stations to fill out a voucher, or by contacting any of the sponsoring organizations. Also, for people who are disabled or elderly, IBEW personnel will send an electrician out to install the detector free of charge.

### **Building and Fire Code Enforcement (Existing Buildings)**

One of the major functions of local government is to provide a reasonable degree of safety for the citizens it governs. This mindset is ever present for the members of the Fire Prevention Bureau, who understand that unsafe buildings pose an inherent risk to both citizens and responding firefighters. In fact, a majority of the building and fire code laws in effect today came into existence to address and correct unsafe building designs and housekeeping practices.

Our inspections encompass existing buildings that are required to meet minimum building and fire codes in effect at the time they were constructed, and there are approximately 3,507 business occupancies in the City of Lafayette. Additionally, we inspect all new construction projects to insure that they meet the current code requirements.

### **Breakdown of Total Business Occupancies in City:**

Group "A" Occupancies= *Nightclubs, Bars, Churches, etc.*

Group "B" Occupancies= *Business (General)*

Group "E" Occupancies= *Schools*

Group "F" Occupancies= *Factories*

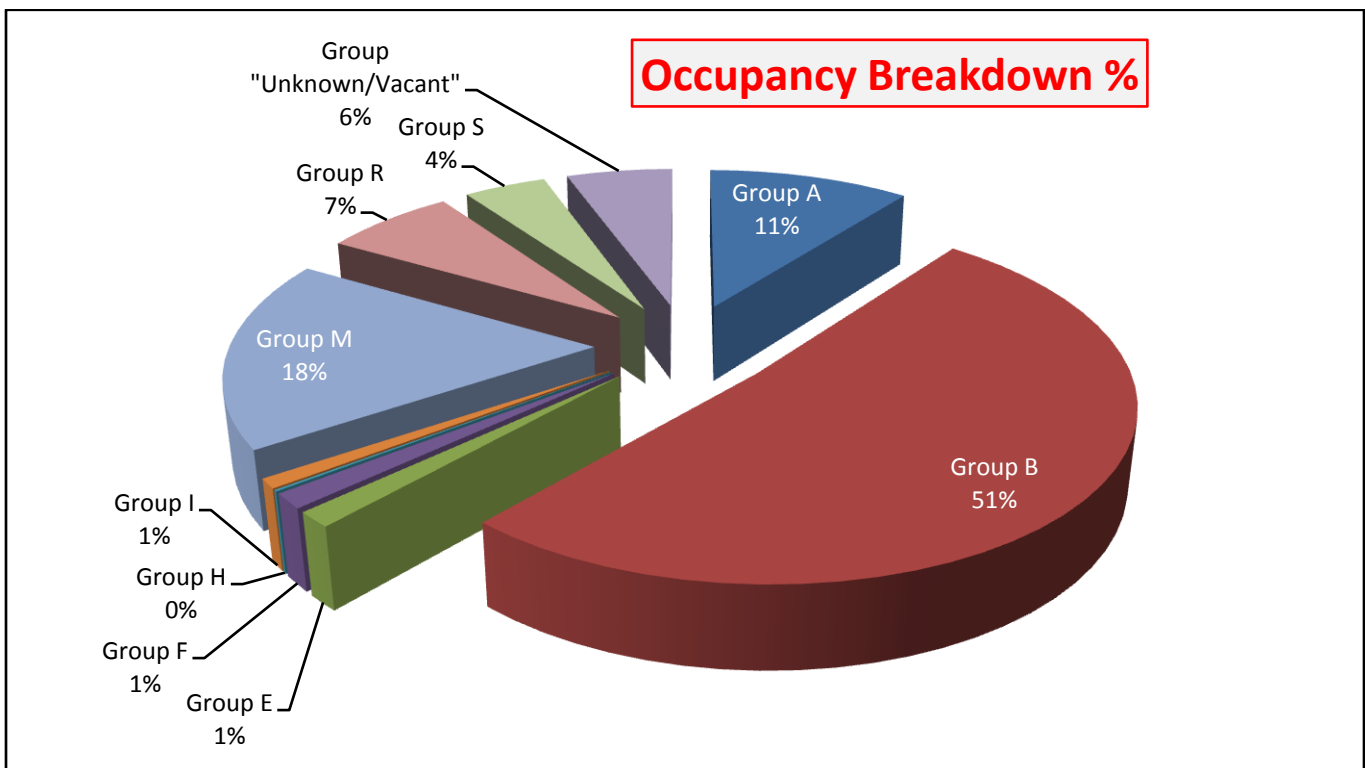
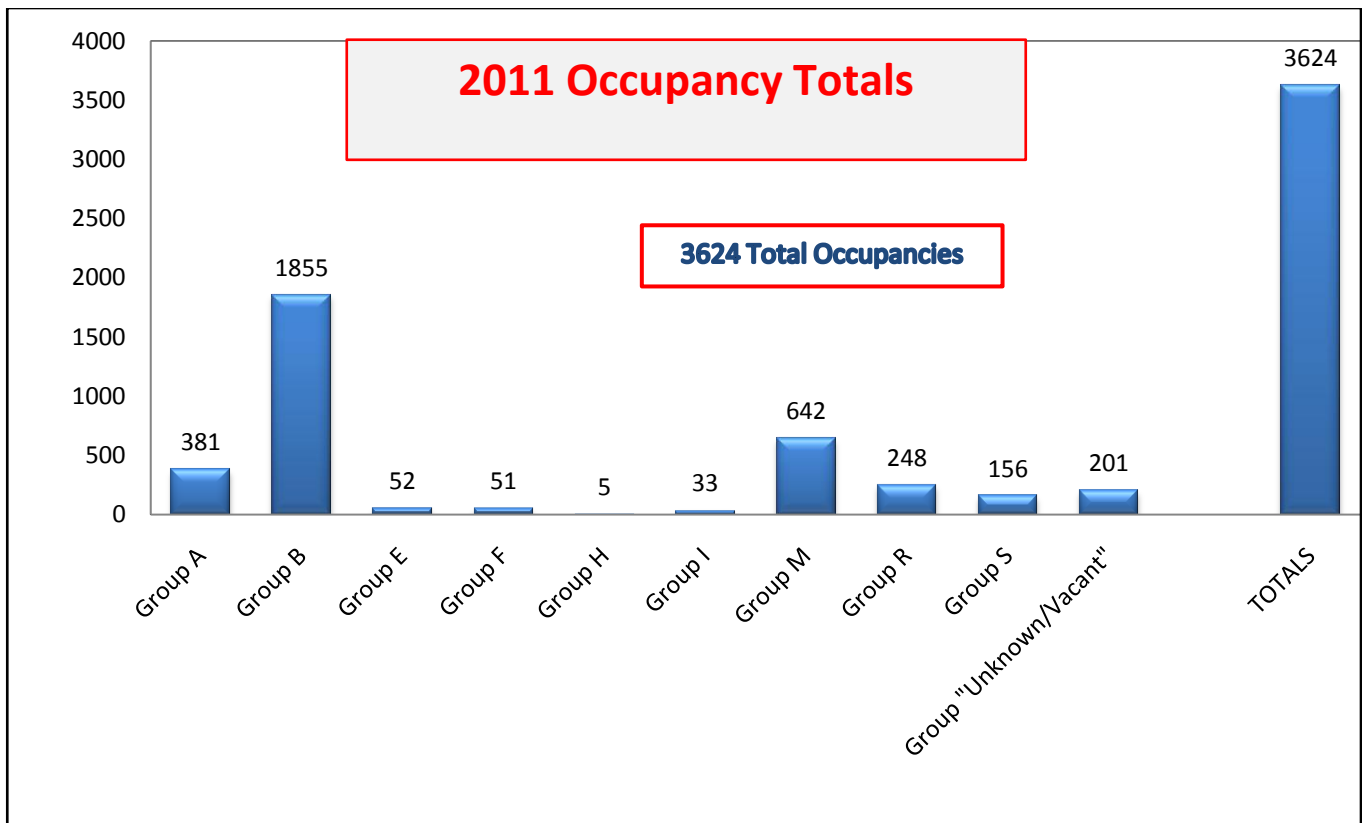
Group "H" Occupancies= *High Hazard*

Group "I" Occupancies= *Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living, Adult and Child Day Cares*

Group "M" Occupancies= *Mercantile (Strip Malls Occupancies, Mall Occupancies, etc.)*

Group "R" Occupancies= *Residential (Apartments, Condominiums, Hotels and Motels)*

Group "S" Occupancies= *Storage Buildings*

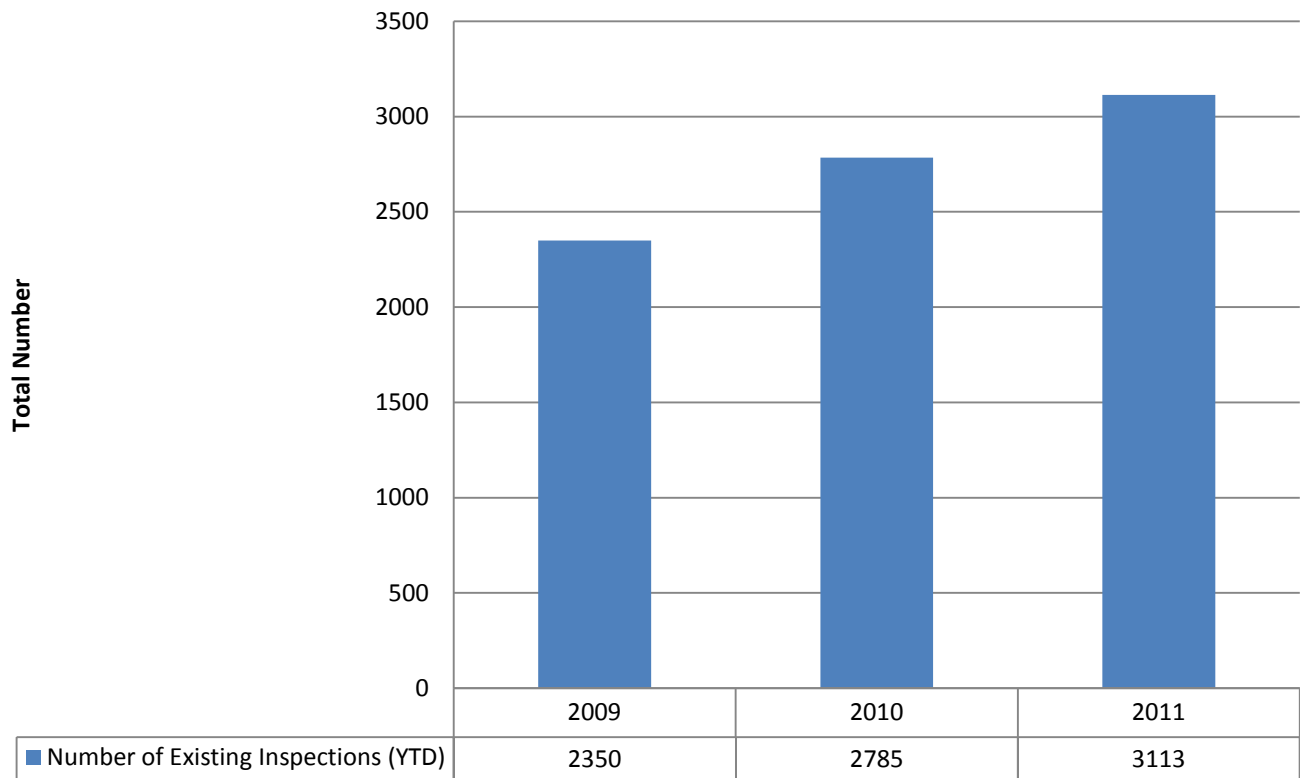


### Existing Inspection Totals

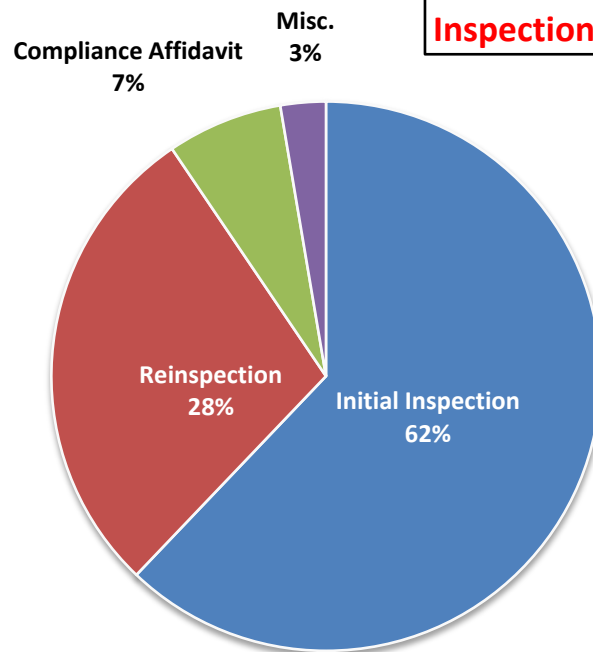
3113 Total Inspections (Existing Buildings) for 2011.

Lafayette Fire Inspectors increased the number of existing inspections for 2011 (**12%**) from previous year.

## Number of Existing Inspections (YTD)



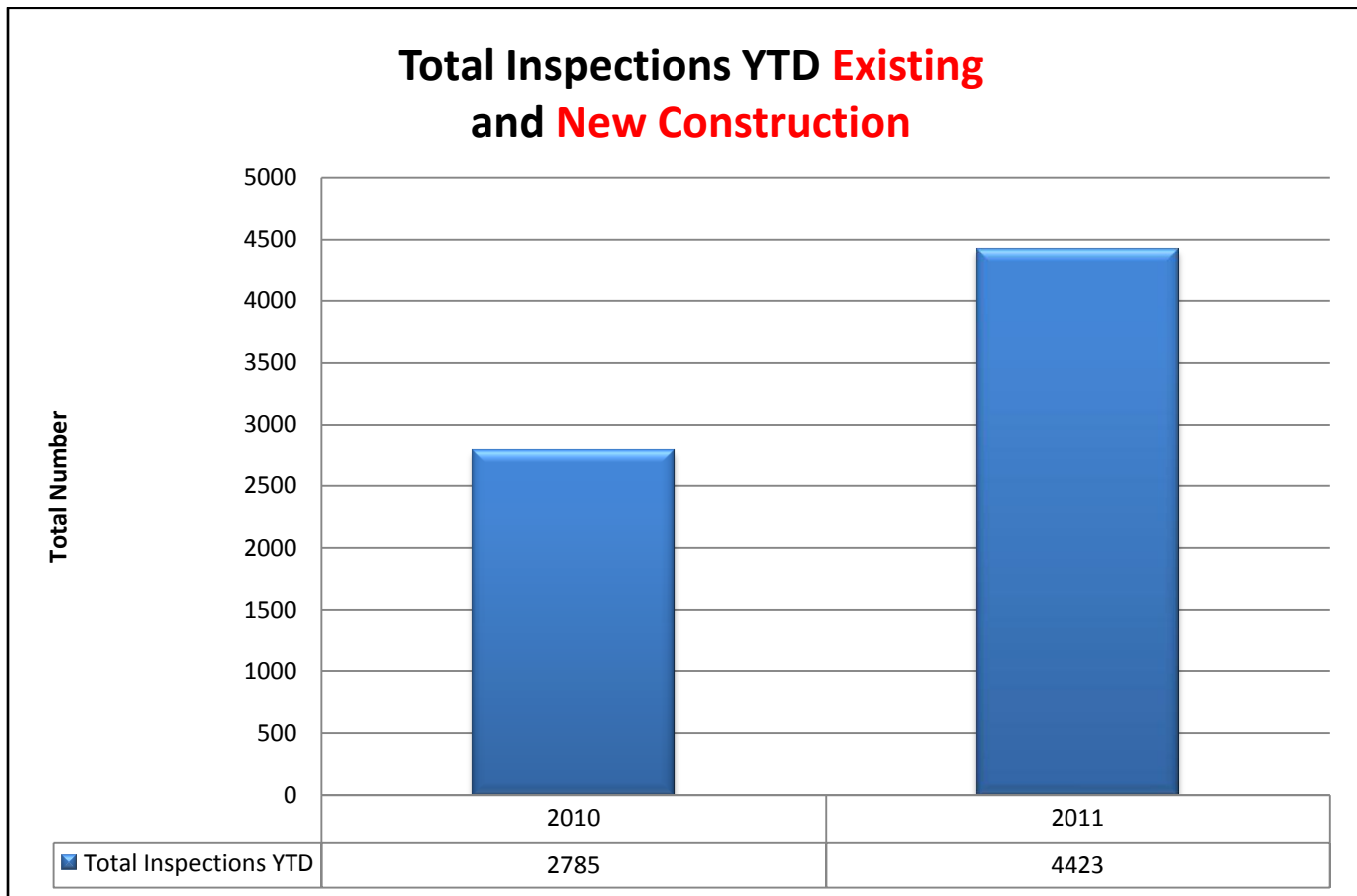
## 2011 Existing Inspection Totals



## Re-inspection Consequences Data

The number of “re-inspections” required to certify compliance continues to tax our resources, and we are currently trying to identify the means to reduce this number.

This year we instituted a “Compliance Affidavit” Program that allows businesses to correct violations by completing a form and forwarding the document which has allowed us to eliminate **7%** of re-inspections, and thus improving our productivity.



## 2011 Existing Building Inspections/ New Construction Projects (Combined)

The Total Number of Combined Inspections (both Existing Buildings & New Construction/Renovation Projects) increased **59%** for the year, in comparison to last year.

## Plan Review and Inspections (New Construction Projects)

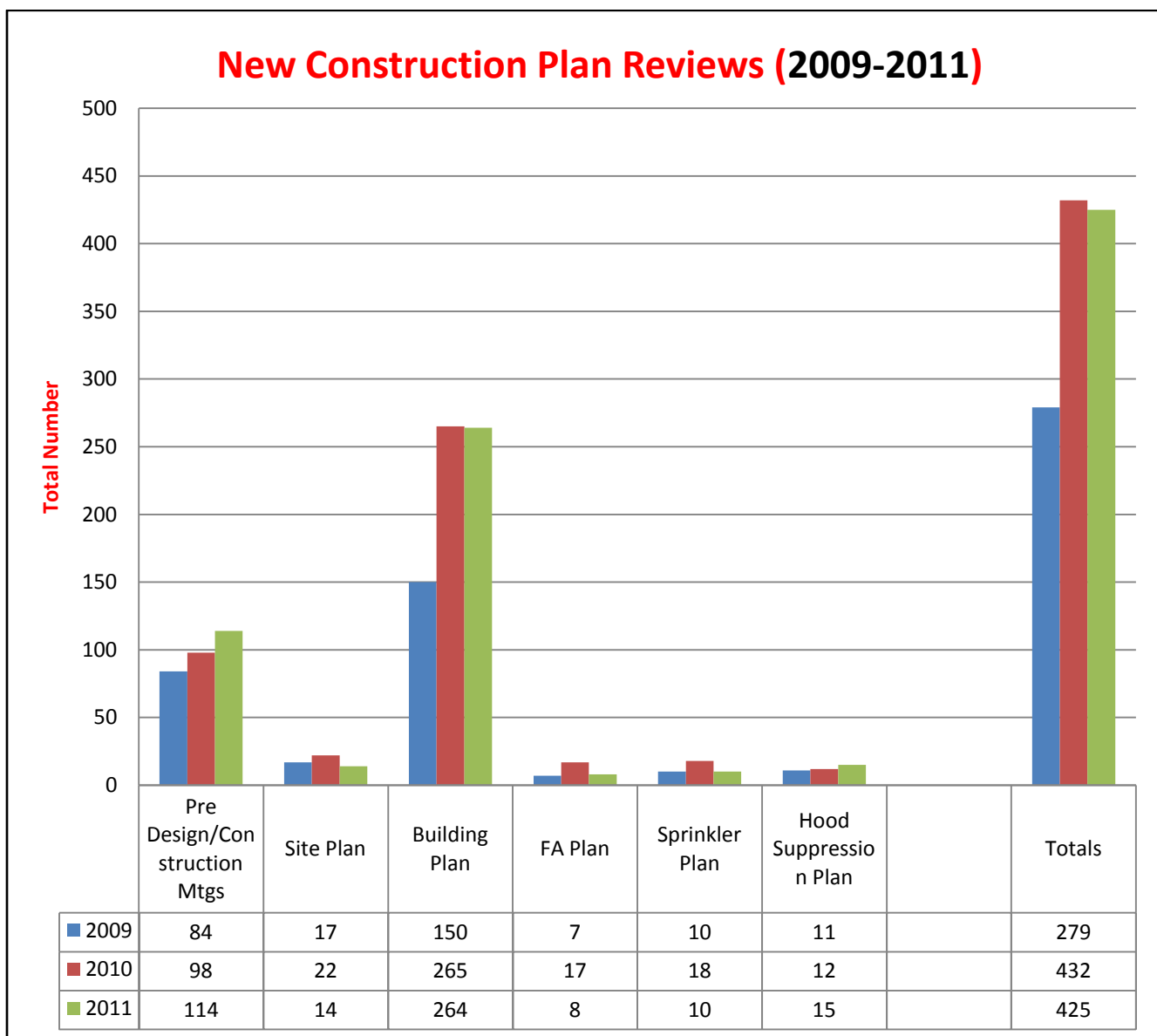
Most new construction projects are required to be filed with the State of Indiana and our City Engineer’s Office to obtain necessary permits to begin construction. We conduct weekly plan reviews of all new construction, and strive to conduct very thorough reviews at the initial phases of construction to help eliminate potential conflicts at the end of the projects. Oftentimes, this will require us to meet personally with architects, building owners, and project managers in pre-construction conferences. We believe that the benefits and rewards of

spending time at the front of a project provides ample justification for the costs incurred, and assists the building owner in avoiding potentially costly renovations at the end of their projects.

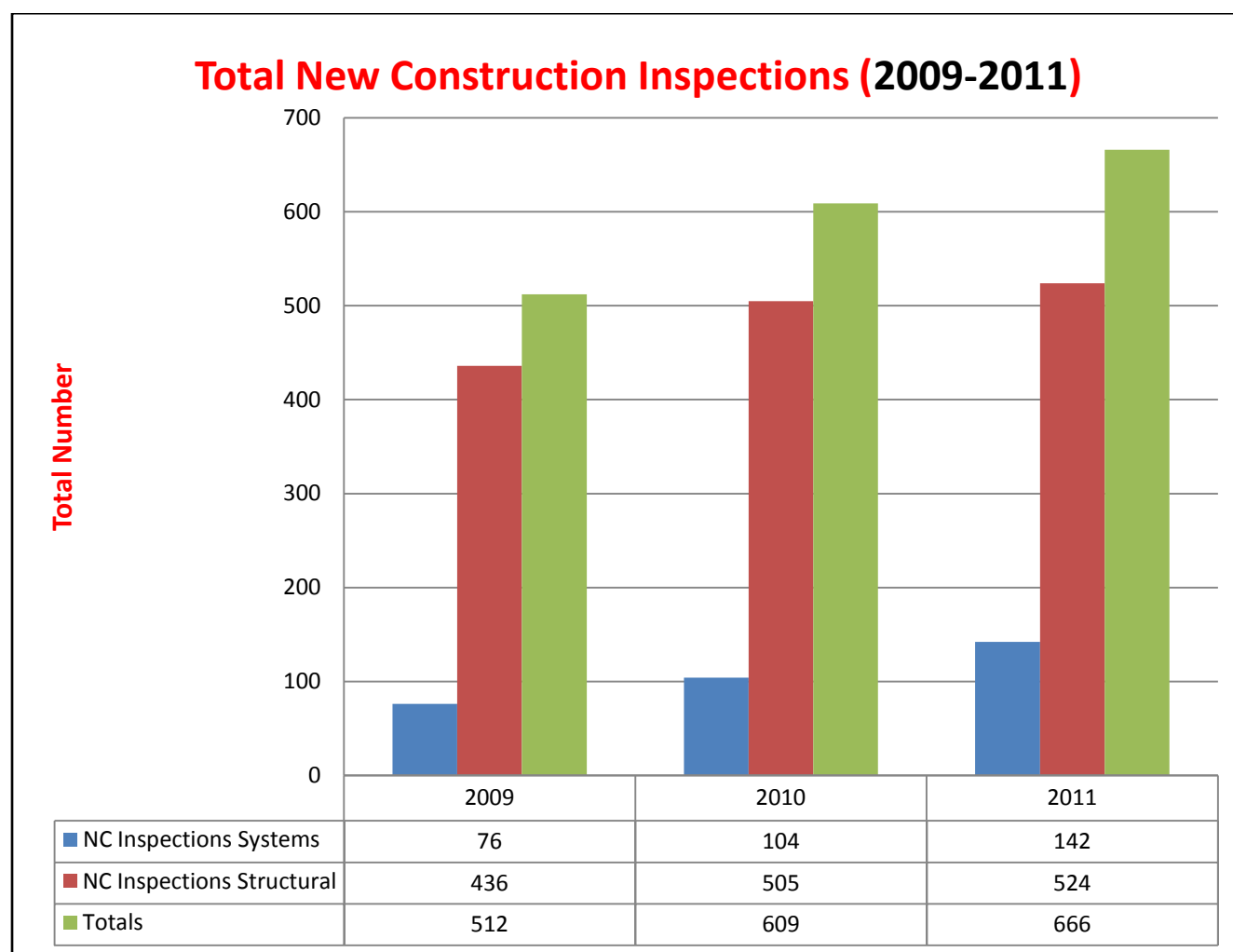
Our Fire Prevention Staff reviews and inspects all pertinent fire code issues, including but not limited to:

- Sprinkler Systems
- Fire Alarm Systems
- Kitchen Hood Systems
- Egress Requirements
- Hydrant Placements
- Fire Department Access to Structures
- Building Compartmentalization

Our goal is to work with Architects/Engineers, Building Owners, and Contractors to identify corrections at the beginning of the process, and to help all parties eliminate costly amenities at the end of the project.



There were 425 New Construction Plan Reviews for the year 2011, consisting of essentially the same number from the previous year.

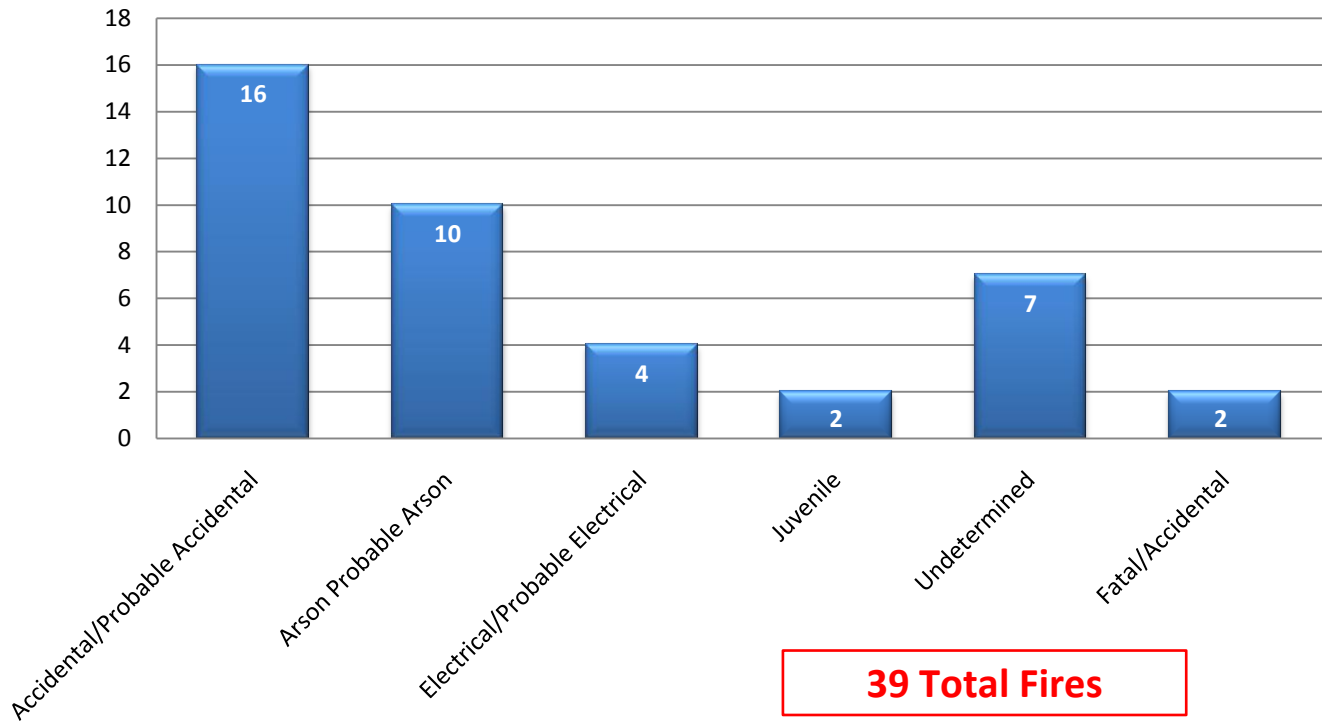


The total number of 2011 Total New Construction Inspections (*“Structural” and “Systems”*) increased **(9%)** from previous year.

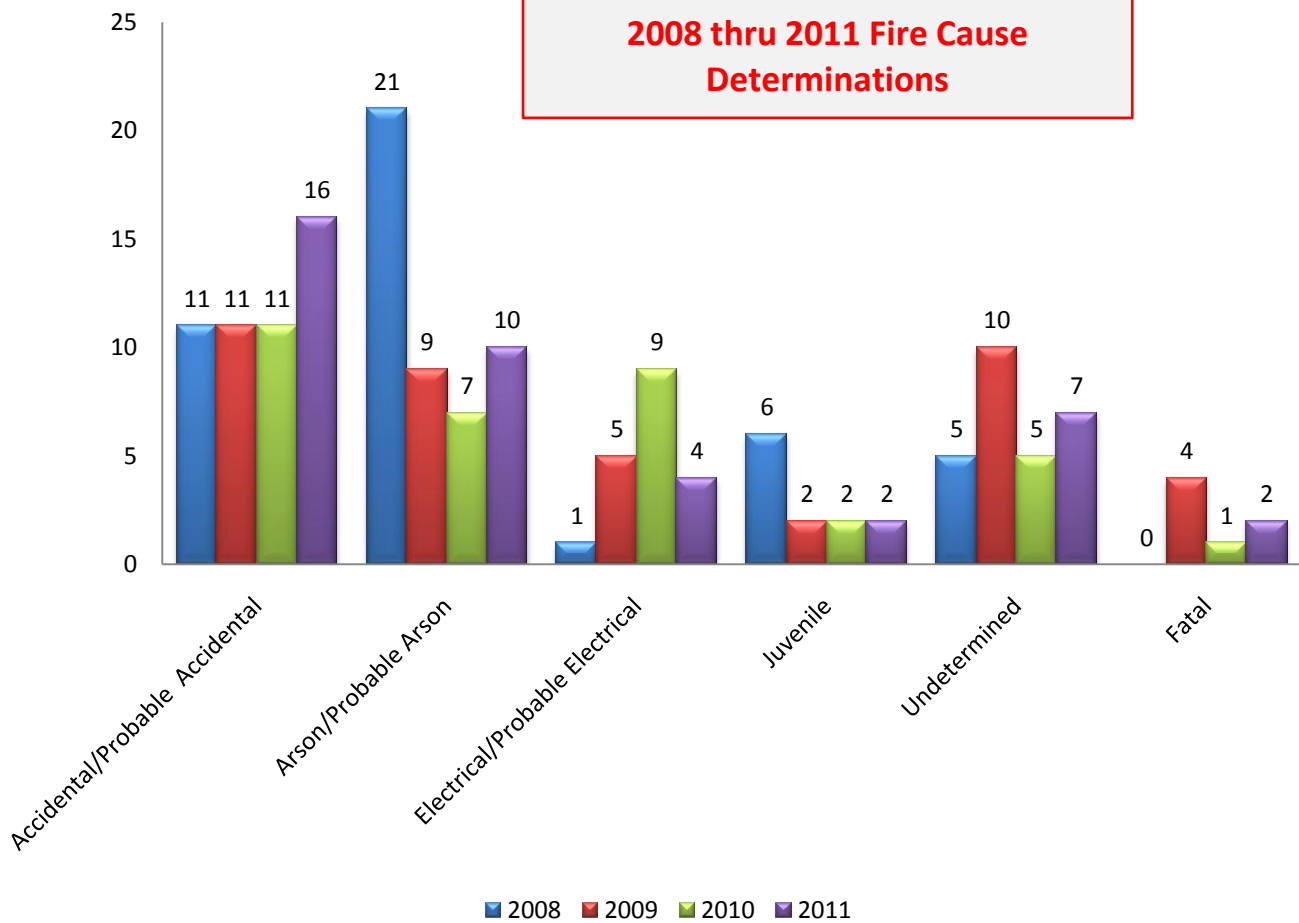
### *Fire and Explosion Investigations*

Members assigned to the Lafayette Fire Prevention Bureau have the responsibility to investigate the “cause and origin” of residential/commercial structure fires and vehicle fires when requested by the Assistant Chief of Suppression. Additionally, we respond to and investigate incidents that involve natural gas explosions. Our investigators attend professional training seminars and have professional memberships/certifications, which include the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). This organization provides opportunities for training and networking with other investigators throughout the state. It provides a highly coveted “Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) program” which certifies the individual has meet minimum experience, training, and courtroom testimony. Currently, two members of our staff have obtained a “CFI” and are listed amongst a total of approximately seventy (70) CFI’s in the entire State of Indiana.

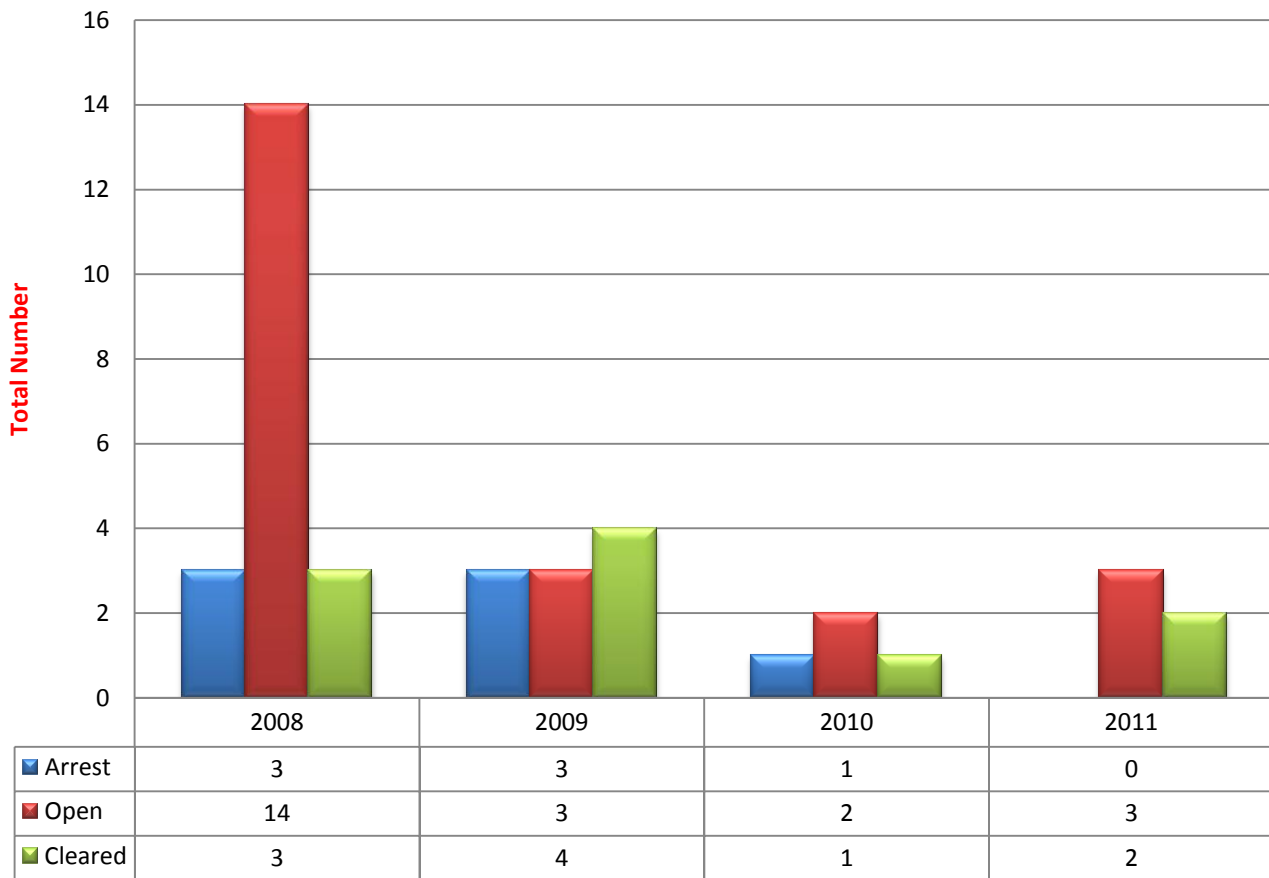
## 2011 Fire Causes



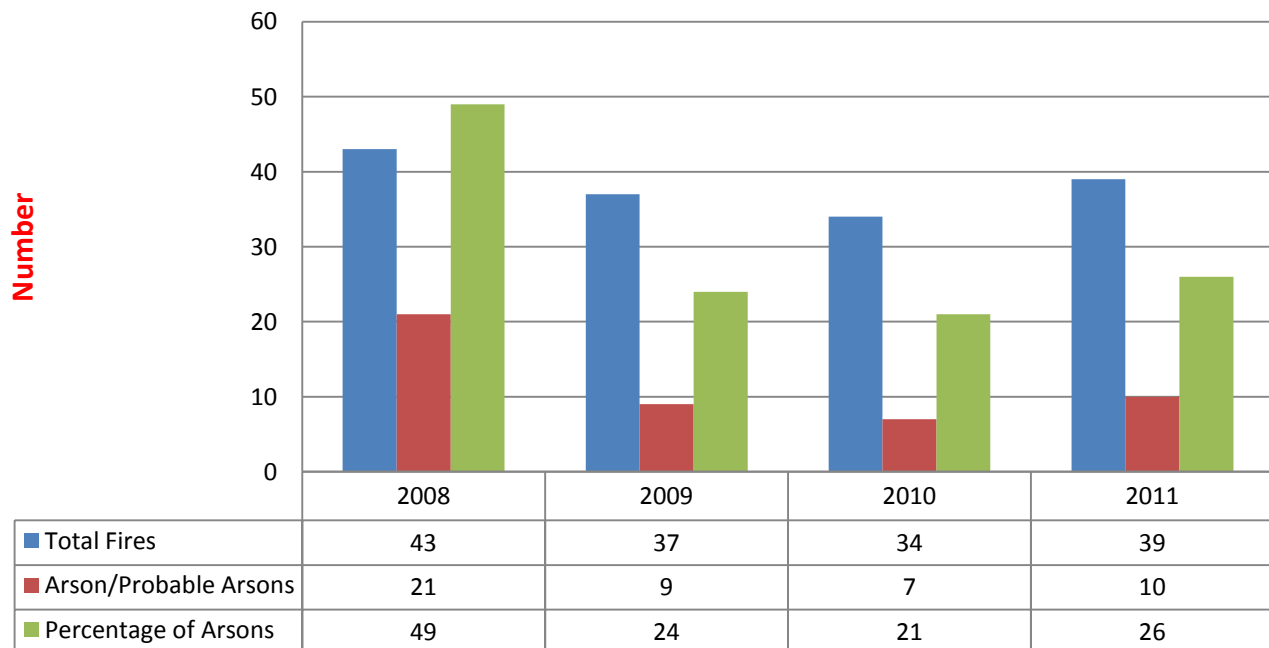
## 2008 thru 2011 Fire Cause Determinations

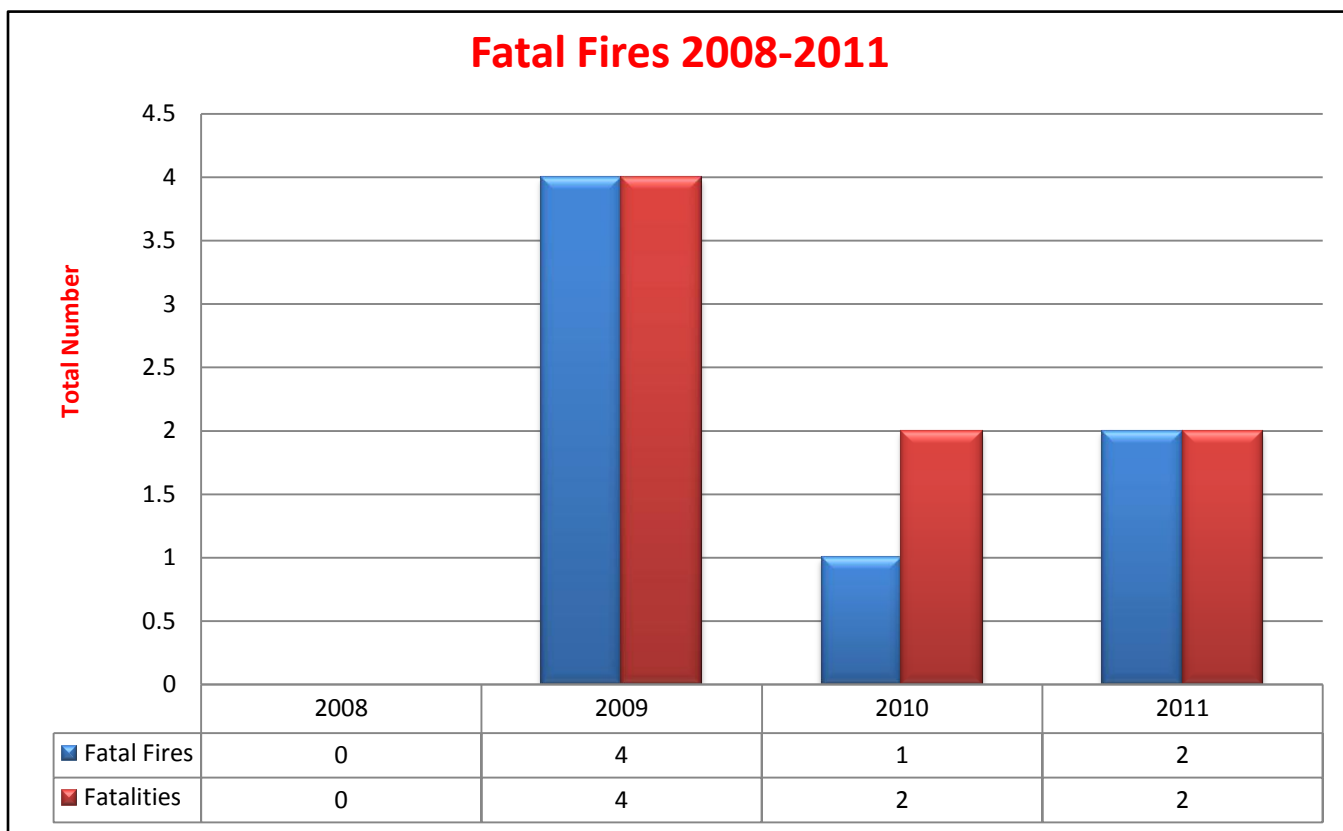


## "Arson" Arrests, Open, Cleared 2008-2011



## Total Fires to Arson Ratios YTD





### **2011 Investigation Report Data**

Lafayette Fire Investigations Unit investigated 39 structure fires for the year, 7 of which involved arson/or probable arson, broken down as follows (**26% of all fires in 2010**):

- 4 arson fires confirmed, and 3 fires determined to be “probable arson”.
- 2 residential fire deaths for the year 2011, one as result of careless smoking, the other was caused by an unattended candle.

### **Additional Duties**

The Fire Prevention staff performs other duties that benefit the fire department, which include:

- Assisting in the fire training for new recruits.
- At-large scale fire events when our staff is called upon to fill positions of incident command which include safety officer, accountability officer, etc.
- Special/Administrative Investigations

## **Lafayette Fire Department** **Training Division**



**Hydraulic Ventilation Training**

The Lafayette Fire Department's Training Division is located at 2070 South 500 East, just north of the SIA automotive plant in Lafayette. We have one full-time training coordinator and he is assisted by many on-shift certified trainers. The training division provides training for our department's members and other outside agencies throughout the year.

### **In-House Training Hours:**

Haz-Mat Training/Haz-Mat Tech  
Firefighter I/II  
Emergency Medical Tech  
Instructor I  
Fire Officer I  
Inspector I  
Live Fire Training

## **Outside Training:**

Flashover  
Emergency Response Team Training  
Confined Space Awareness Training  
Haz-Mat Training  
Incident Command Training  
District 4 Fire Training

## **Outside organizations that received training:**

Caterpillar  
Tate and Lyle  
Evonik  
Rea Wire  
Subaru of America

## **Special Events:**

- Construction of the new Confined Space Simulator



**Live Fire Training**

## **Lafayette Fire Department** **Hazardous Materials Team**



**Tanker filled with ammonia turned over on US 52 and Schuyler**

The ever present threat of chemical, biological, radiological and explosive mixture incidents ensures that the Lafayette Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team must be prepared to contain any possible situation.

As of 2011, 62 of the firefighters on the Lafayette Fire Department roster are trained to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician. That number will continue to grow as the Hazardous Materials Technician is now a required component of the Lafayette Fire Department Recruit Academy.

In addition to training locally, some team members attended training around the country sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and various other hazardous materials training organizations. These training sessions include response to chemical, biological, radiological, explosive, flammable liquid, pipeline, tank truck and railroad incidents.

The Lafayette Fire Department Hazardous Material Team continues to work with Purdue Fire Department, Frankfort Fire Department and Tippecanoe Emergency Management Agency to provide hazardous materials response throughout the nine-county area of District 4. The team is also deployable throughout the State in the event of a large scale disaster.



## Hazardous Materials Team

Brian Alkire  
Steve Arndt  
Mark Beeler  
Mike Blann  
Myron Congram  
Toby Frost

Scott Guinn  
Jeff Hauser  
Scott Hunter  
Ted Koeppen  
Eliseo Medrano  
Todd Munson

Travis Oliver  
Juan Perera  
Brian Perior  
Mark Phillips  
John Robinson  
Ryan Woody



**Decontamination**

## **Lafayette Fire Department** **Tactical Rescue Team**



**Trench Rescue Training with Kokomo Fire Department**

In 2011, the Tactical Rescue Team grew to 39 members. Team members are highly trained in rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue and structural collapse. Team members rotate training between these disciplines at the Lafayette Fire Department Training Center and various industrial sites around Lafayette such as Tate & Lyle, Rea Wire and Alcoa.

Tactical Rescue Team members also receive technician level training in heavy vehicle/machinery extrication and antennae/tower rescue.

The Lafayette Fire Department Tactical Rescue Team is the only team in the nine county area of District 4 to provide this level of rescue service. The team is recognized by the State of Indiana as a team that may be deployable in the event of a large scale disaster anywhere.

Team membership is completely voluntary and members receive no type of compensation for the many hours of off-duty training that they put in.

## Tactical Rescue Team

Brian Adkins  
Ryan Altman  
Mark Antonian  
Steve Arndt  
John Berkshire  
Dave Bisher  
Jamie Blacker  
Michael Blann  
Rodney Brewer  
Steve Butram  
Jason Clark  
Myron Congram  
Brad Cornell

Joey Danaher  
Mike Davis  
Adam Deaton  
Richard Doyle  
Randy Evans  
Toby Frost  
Jeff Hauser  
Chad Hoey  
Mike Hoskins  
Scott Hunter  
Jason Jordan  
Ted Koeppen  
Lance Martin

Chad McCord  
Jon McDaniel  
Mike Moran  
Tagg Morris  
Todd Munson  
Travis Oliver  
Brian Perior  
Mark Phillips  
Jeff Smith  
Karl Stokes  
Mike Stull  
Ryan Woody  
Brad Young



**Structural Collapse Training**

# **Total Runs for 2011**

**5,903**

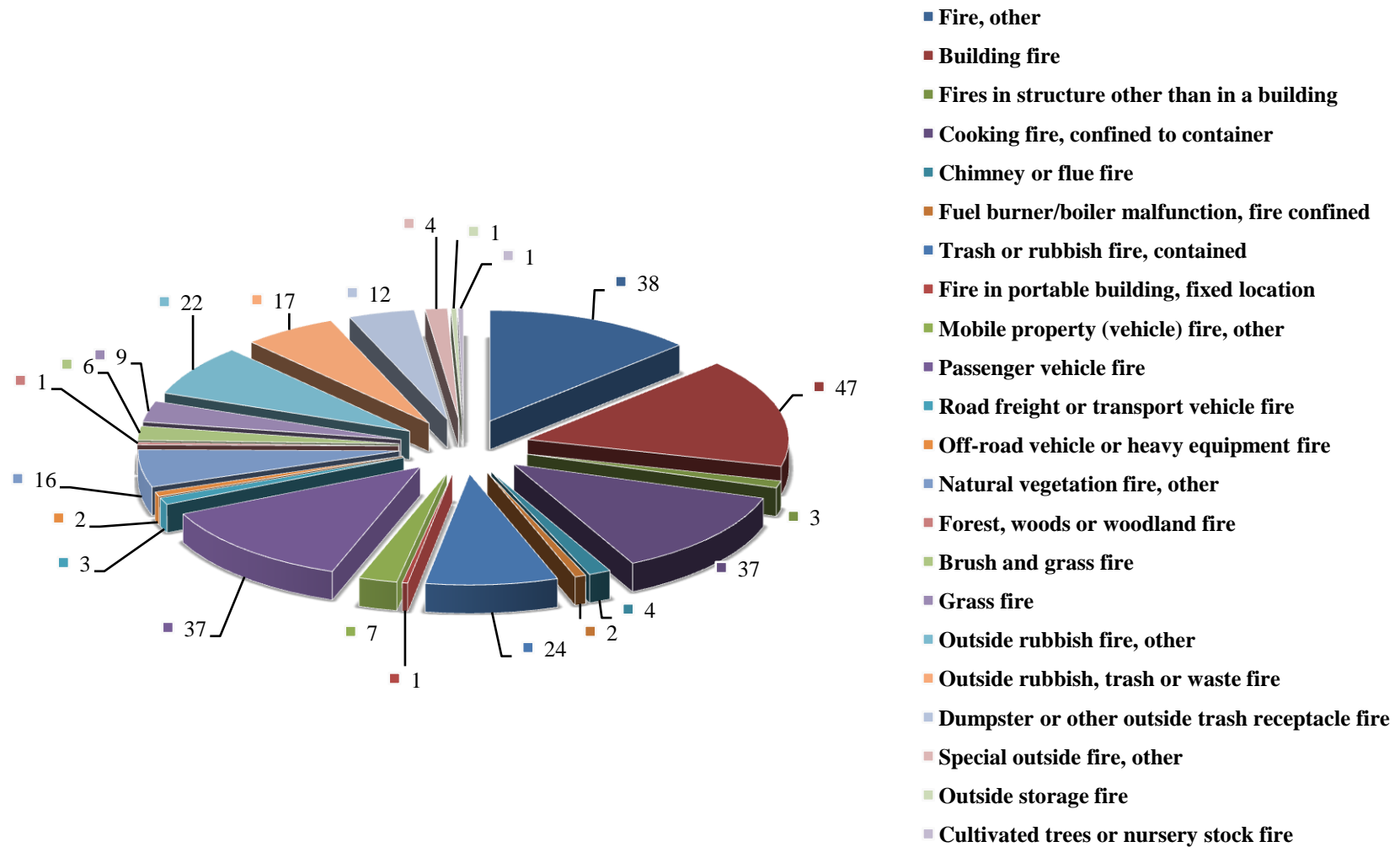
## **Includes The Following:**

**Fire Related (294)**

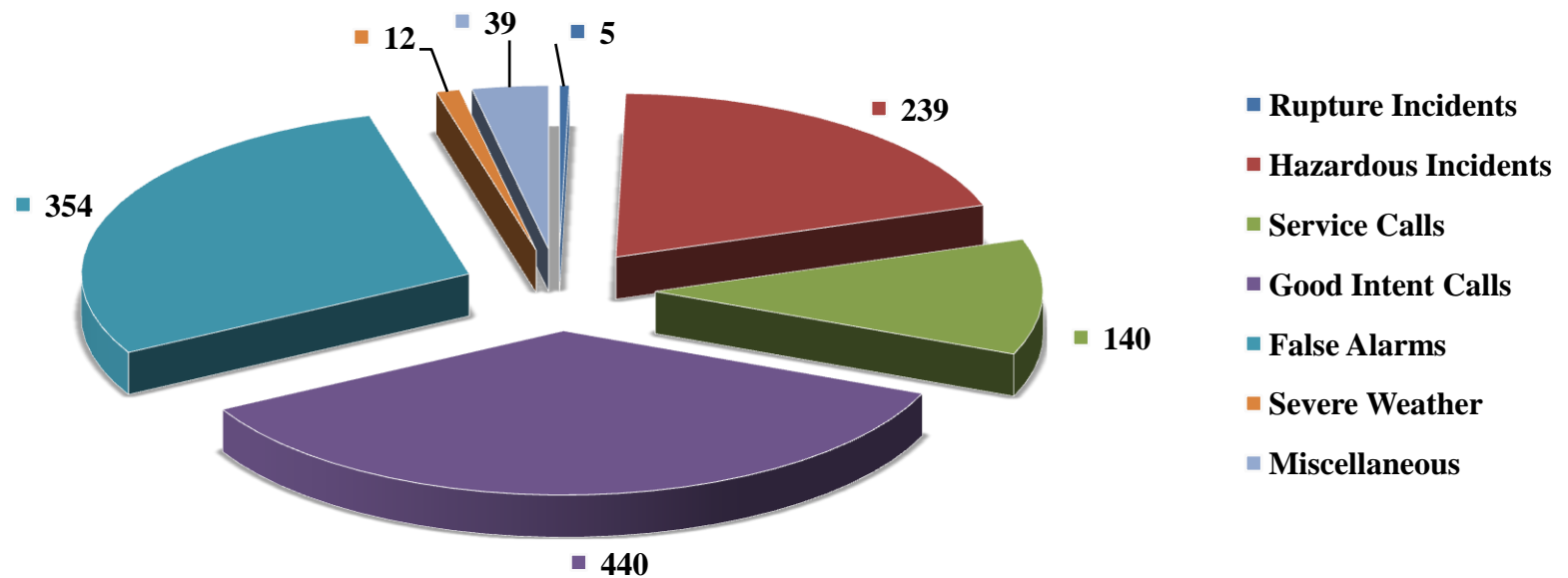
**Non-Fire Related (1,229)**

**EMS (4,380)**

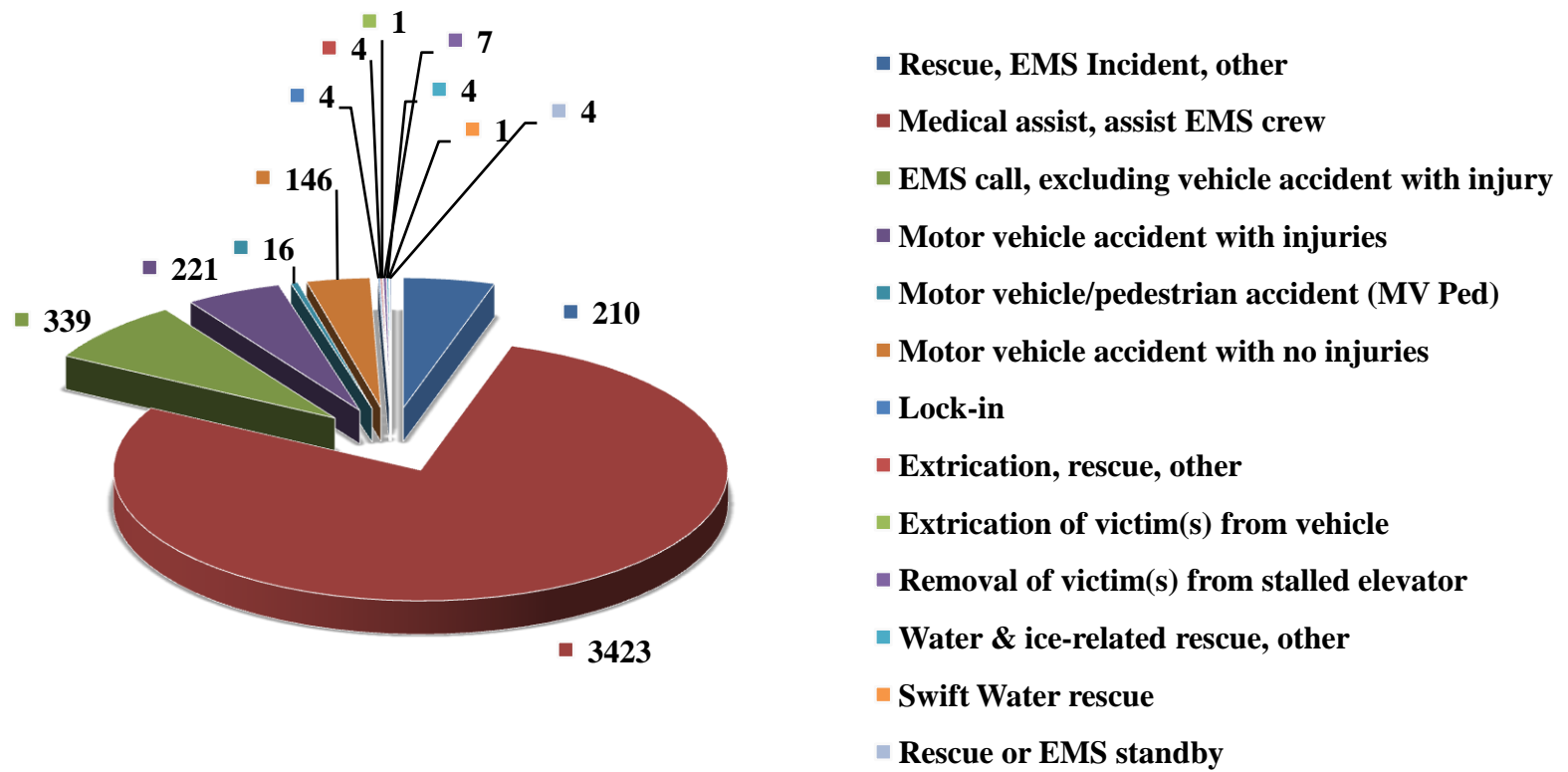
# 2011 Fire Runs



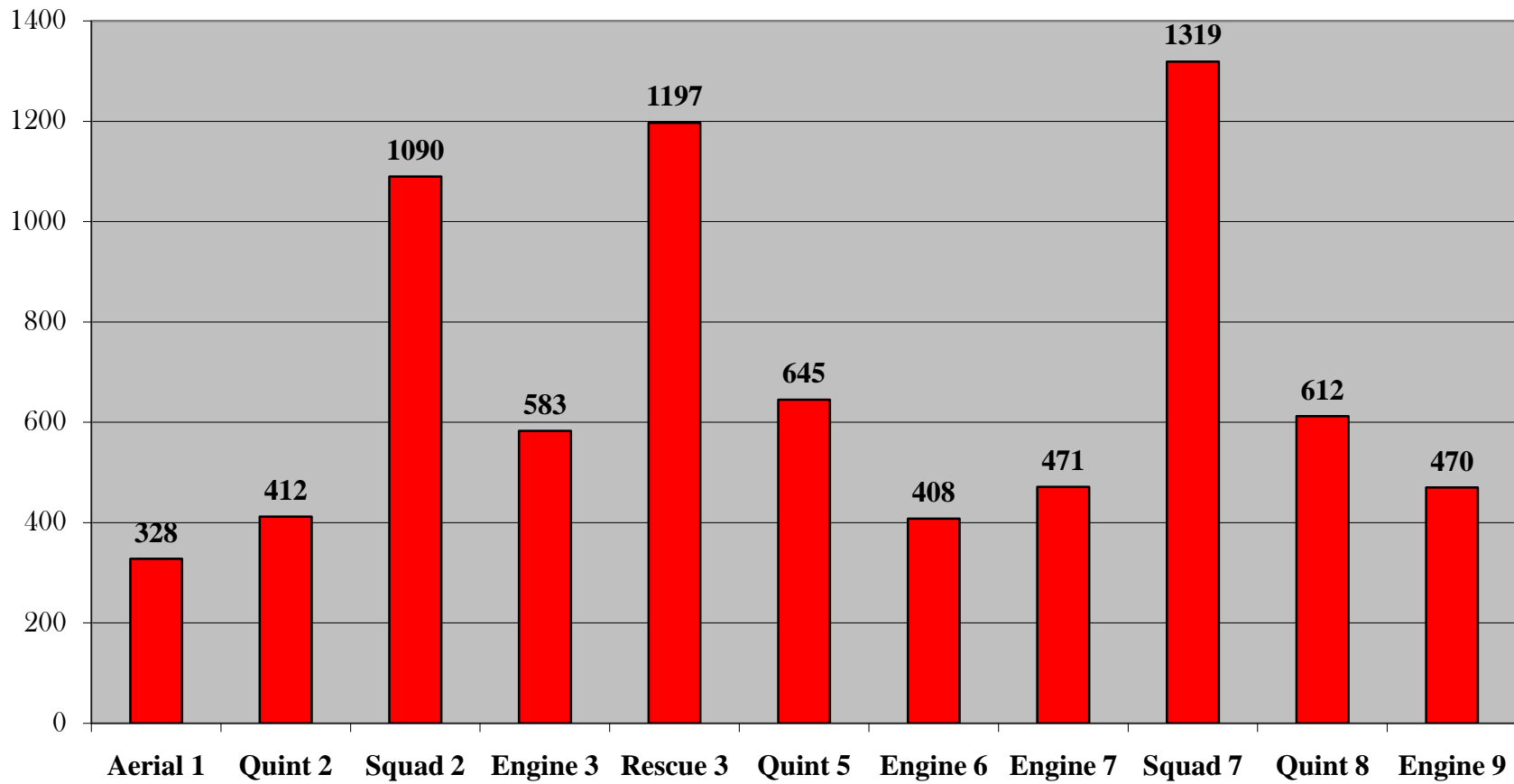
## 2011 Non-Fire Related Runs/Excluding EMS



## 2011 EMS Runs



## 2011 Responses Per Unit



## 2011 Calls Per Zone

